

Remarks

The numbered paragraphs of the Office action are responded to through the corresponding numbered paragraphs below. The applicant has addressed each issue in turn and, for clarity, has provided a heading for each issue.

The Examiner indicated that the pending action is responsive to communications: Amendment and Formal Drawings, both filed on 1/28/02. The Examiner noted that this action is made final; that claims 31-56 are pending in this application, that claim 31 (which was amended) is the sole independent claim, that claim 57 was canceled and that the present title of the invention is "Method and Apparatus for Monitoring Dynamic Systems Using N-Dimensional Representations of Critical Functions". Applicant appreciates the Examiner's assistance with this matter and believes that no specific response is required for this paragraph.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The Examiner noted that the text to Title 35 is not included in this action but can be found in a prior Office action. The applicant believes that no response is required for this paragraph.
2. The Examiner rejected claims 31-56 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Richards et al. (U.S. patent 5,121,469) in view of Gibson (U.S. patent 5,812,688). The applicant has requested that claim 31, on which claims 32-56 depends, be amended to more clearly point out the incorporation of displayed normal values provided to assist a user in discerning deviations from said normal values. The applicant believes that a framework including normal values with objects displayed in relation to

the normal values is neither shown or suggested by either cited references alone or in combination. The applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of this paragraph.

Response to Arguments

3. The Examiner indicated that the applicant's previous arguments with respect to claims 31-56 have been considered but are moot in view of the new rejection. The applicant appreciates the Examiner's consideration and believes that no specific response is required for this paragraph.

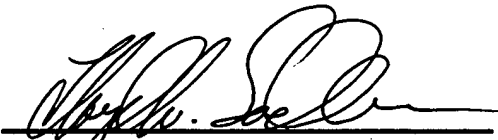
Conclusion

4. The Examiner noted that certain "prior art is made of record and not relied upon". The applicant appreciates the Examiner's search and respectfully requests the inclusion of these references in the cited references of this application.

5. The Examiner stated that the applicant's previous amendment necessitated the new grounds of rejection presented and that this action is made final. The applicant has responded to this final action by submitting with this Amendment/Response a Request for Continued Examination and the required fees. The applicant believes that this submitted response is fully responsive to this Office action and respectfully requests continued prosecution, consideration and allowance. The Examiner also provided information concerning communications on this case. The applicant appreciates the Examiner's willingness to communicate and assistance regarding this case and believes no response to this paragraph is necessary.

The applicant has requested that claim 31 be amended as described. Applicant believes that all issues and points of the Examiner's Office action have been addressed. Applicant believes that claims 31-56, as presently pending, are patentable over all known prior art. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted this 1st day of October, 2002.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lloyd W. Sadler', is written over a horizontal line.

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